

Q&A - State Scholarships and Grants (OSG)  
High School Financial Aid Update Workshop  
November 14, 2008

### **Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS)**

What is the date the FAFSA should be submitted for maximum financial aid consideration?

**In order to be considered for eligibility for the MCS or other state awards, the student needs to file the FAFSA between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> of their senior year.**

When will the state send the sample MCS letter to high school counselors that they need to send to students/parents regarding social security numbers for MCS?

**As of November 14<sup>th</sup> – it will be sent in a couple of weeks.**

What about students that are taking the ACT test for a second time in December? Will they still qualify for the grant? How will the state let us know of any added students to give certificates to?

**Potentially – it depends on the timing of when scores are received and when we process the MCS awards.**

Is the MCS renewable?

**Yes it is renewable. Students can receive the MCS up to five years – ten semesters or fifteen terms. They must file the FAFSA every year and continue to demonstrate financial need.**

Can a student be granted MCS and Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) simultaneously?

**Students cannot receive them simultaneously.**

If a student does not qualify for MCS with their scores from the ACT through MME, can they retake the ACT on a National Test Date and qualify at a later time?

**Yes. The student would need to register and pay for the retake national test date exam.**

How are retake ACT scores conveyed to the State for purposes of qualifying for MCS? OSG receives test scores from ACT for all Michigan residents who take the test.

**The ACT company sends a disk containing test records to OSG after each test cycle.**

Why can't you use the UIC to match the ACT score to the student?

**UIC is not part of the FAFSA. UIC is used to merge multiple MME student records in the MERIT/Promise database only. Also, UIC is not part of the record sent with the individual Act score from the Michigan Department of Education's scoring vendor.**

## **Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship**

Could you explain the Byrd Scholarship formula?

**It is the same as for the class of 2008. The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship The nomination application has three parts. Part 3 explains the Scoring Formula and proceeds as follows:**

**Step 1. Grade Point Average (GPA) (Convert to 4.0 scale and round to three decimals.) Use grades only from Math, English, Science, Social Sciences and Foreign Language (if applicable) for all semesters through the first half of the senior year. Score cannot be greater than 1,000 (i.e.  $5.0 \times 250 = 1,000$ ).**

**Step 2. Michigan Merit Exam (MME): list scores for English Language Arts, mathematics, Science, Social Studies. Total the four scores and divide by 50 to get a composite score.**

**Step 3. Total final score. Cannot exceed 1,100.**

**For further information including a copy of the nomination form please go to the web site:**

**[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Item\\_L\\_191606\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Item_L_191606_7.pdf)**

## **Tuition Incentive Program**

Is it possible to get a county wide TIP listing?

**No, only by school. Contact OSG if you would like to request a list.**

## **Children of Veterans Tuition Grant**

Regarding the CVTG, the emphasis was placed on the parent. Are students with guardians, other than a parent eligible for this grant? If so, does that include other guardians like grandparents?

**It includes only biological or adoptive parents.**

## **Michigan Hope Grant**

Is there a Michigan Hope Grant? A student moved to Flint from Lansing and said their college was to be paid for by the Michigan Hope Grant.

**No. This is a local program, not a state program. For example, Lansing has a Hope Scholars Program that is coordinated by Lansing Community College.**

## **Scholarship Searches**

Does the state of Michigan or one of our state universities offer a free scholarship search?

**The state of Michigan does not have a search service. We generally recommend Fastweb or College Board search services. For more information on scholarship searches and scams go to the *Paying for College in Michigan* publication or on the web site at: [www.michigan.gov/studentaid](http://www.michigan.gov/studentaid) and in the Quick List Forms and Documents you will find the publication online. Additional information pertaining to scams can be found at the Federal Trade Commission Website at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).**